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SOURCE Nan-fang Jih-pao.

FOOD CROP HARVESTS TO BE GREATER THAN 1950,  
BUT TO FALL SHORT OF PLANNED QUOTA

The target amount of 1951 agricultural production of food is not expected to be fulfilled due to damage caused by floods, drought, and pests in a large section of the country. However, the 1951 food crop will be greater than that of 1950. Except for the provinces of Chahar, Suiyuan, Hopeh, Shansi, Shensi and the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Area, where large areas were seriously affected by natural calamities, the harvest throughout the country is better than in 1950.

Throughout the People's Republic of China the people are now engaged in autumn harvest. Although some regions barely survived the calamities of flood, drought, or insect pests, most areas are expecting a bumper harvest of food crops. The harvest in North China is just beginning.

Most of the early rice harvest along the Yangtze River Valley and points south of it is good, while Szechwan expects 80 to 90 percent of a normal harvest. The Chekiang regular rice crop is estimated to be 10 to 20 percent higher than last year. Except for the drought-devastated sections in Hunan, Hupeh, and Kiangsi, the regular rice crop in these provinces is expected to be slightly better than last year. The undamaged fields in Hupeh are yielding an average of 350 catties [one catty equals 1 1/3 pounds] per mou [one mou equals 1/6 acre].

The harvest of kaoliang, millet, corn, beans, and other secondary autumn crops for the country is fairly good. The Northeast will produce an 80 to 90 percent crop in those items. The yields of kaoliang and millet in Honan, Shantung, Pingyuan, Hopeh, and other provinces, not counting the areas affected by natural calamities, average 200 catties per mou. Some yields ran as high as 300 to 400 catties per mou.

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The rainfall throughout the country this year was not as favorable as last year. Destruction caused by crop pests further reduced yield. The over-all agricultural production of 1951 cannot possibly fulfill the original goal, but it is expected to be greater than the production of 1950. The increase is due to the leadership of the government and various patriotic movements.

Farmers especially are anxious and hopeful that no damage to the ripened crops may be caused by an untimely storm or frost.

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